February 7, 2007

Ms. Tracy Billington
Department of Water Resources
Division of Planning and Assistance
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236-001

Dear Ms. Billington,

I am a trustee on the board at Pacific Elementary School in Davenport. Our school is known for our food lab that teaches children how to plan, prepare and cook healthy, delicious meals for themselves. Last year, it was suggested that all vegetable wash water be pre-boiled. Imagine having that extra chore while feeding 120 students!

The new water quality standards directly impact our ability to function as a school. Children cannot even use the water fountain during recess.

As a board member I am well aware of the money we spend each month on bottled water while paying \$3,225.00 annually for water service and the \$1,200.00 we incur through taxes.

An adequate system would cost our tiny town \$700,000.00! (I am currently involved in trying to raise \$15,000 to update our outdated science and non-fiction section in our library, which is hard enough!)

I urge you to fund the Northern Santa Cruz County projects. Included is the Davenport Sanitation District proposal via Integrated Regional Water Management Program partnership.

Thank you for considering funding this grant and please come visit us on the North Coast!

Truly, Lea Haratani